1867

Dec 26

Rome ~~Thursday~~

My dear Marie

Yes I enclosed the 1st half of £ note
C 02421 to Tom for you know in this I have also
enclosed me 2d half & beg to express to you
my great regret & pain that I have
been unable to send it before, partly
from the difficulty of getting a bank
note (as I have no money in London) &
partly that my illness has doubled all my
expences & put me to shifts
But however as I am better & likely
to get well as the warm weather &
most certainly I should have been a cripple
for life without all this care & expence: so
I am not put out at being a little punished
all that remains is that I am a little
lame from a nervous pain in my knees, but
my general health is excellent. I am sometimes
able to paint. Am not with my usual spirits

disobey, as my fingers are stiff—

Our political doings have encreased my labours & responsibilities—The Milan people have just sent me 3.000 fcs for the wounded Garibaldeen prisoners & each man on leaving the hospital receives from me 40 fcs— It has been a sad affair & its just possible there may be another attempt to take Rome

Poor dear Eleanor thinks or has heard that I am very ill & intends coming to Rome mid Jan.y— This might endanger her life & as I do not want nursing I have written to prevent her attempting this danger

I hope this will find you well & comfortable & that this may a little help to make you so— The 3 months in a mountain town has done me great good for I wanted a change

The cold here is very great & the mountains covered with snow so I dont attempt to go out but take my walks about my large house

Tell Tom to send his or your letters directed to me to the Foreign Office & they will come free of expence

Your loving brother
Joe

Hoping this may find you all
well I with my love to all
I remain your loving brother
Joe

P.S. I must have been worse than
you at my hands were at times like
stove sticks, that would have been
a sad misfortune to you